

Innovative Technologies Brought On Line at the Savannah River Site

Tom Heenan

Assistant Manager for Environment, Science and Technology US Department of Energy

EPA-DOD Environmental Conference
June 25-27, 2002
Atlanta, Georgia



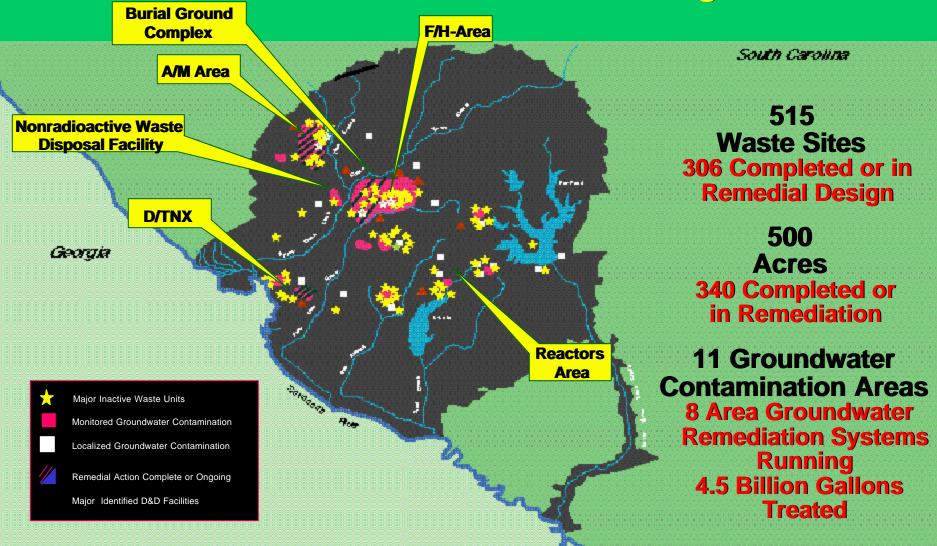
Innovation at SRS

Who We Are

What We're Doing/Have Done

How We Do Business

Savannah River Site Environmental Restoration Program



Major ER Waste Units Identified at SRS



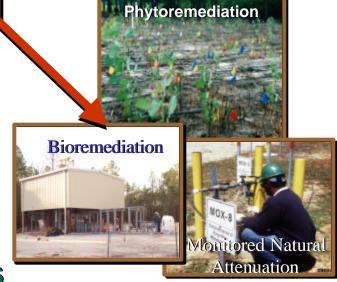
Evolution of Remediation at SRS



Truck



Natural Processes





Innovation at SRS

Who We Are

What We're Doing/Have Done

How We Do Business



Airlift Recirculation Wells

TNX and A/M Areas

Issue: Recirculation wells were an emerging in-situ technology for the treatment of groundwater contaminated with volatile organic compounds.



Second Deployment at A/M Area - STILL OPERATING

Geology conducive to establishing a re-circulation of groundwater

12 wells operating at Southern Sector, 4 of which have been retrofitted with a Mutli- In-well Aerator (MIA) enhancement (UC Davis) (wells with highest concentration)

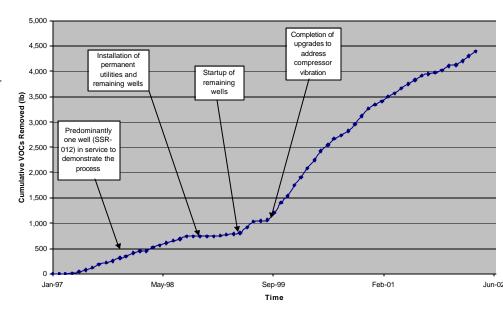
11 more wells with MIA on line this year at the Miscellaneous Chemical Basin

Initial Deployment at TNX - DIDN'T WORK

Design objectives could not be met

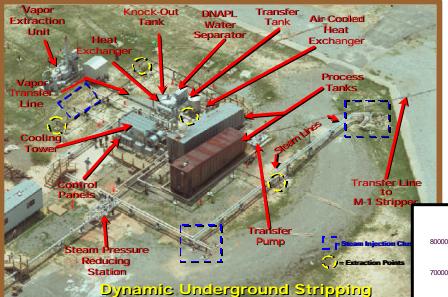
Geology at unit precluded efficient extraction of groundwater

Total VOCs Removed from the Southern Sector Groundwater Plume by Recirculation Wells SSR-001 through -012





Dynamic Underground Stripping



Issue: Largest source of DNAPL (solvent) contamination in the vadose zone and groundwater in DOE, affects a regional aquifer, and is the second high risk in the Environmental Restoration program

Traditional Approach: Soil Vapor Extraction/Air Stripping Innovation: **Dynamic Underground Stripping**

Cost Improvement: 30 times cheaper

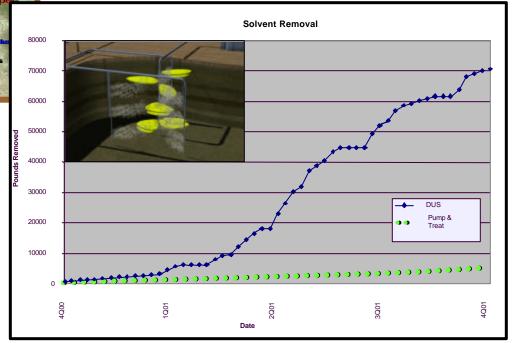
(>>\$100M cost avoidance)

Performance

Improvement: 15 times faster than Soil

Vapor extraction and 7 times

faster than Air Stripping





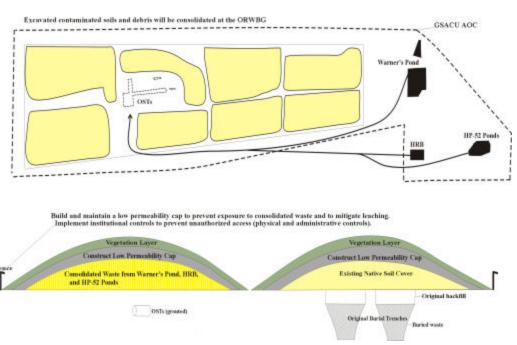
Old Radioactive Waste Burial Ground (ORWBG)

General Separations Area Consolidation Unit

Issue: Close waste site which contains buried radioactive waste and contaminated soil (containing ~600,000 curies) along with three other similar waste units and a portion of the Inactive Process Sewer Line that contains radionuclides. This unit represents the highest risk in the Environmental Restoration program

Traditional Approach: Close the units independently, off site out-of-state disposal of waste, and in-situ stabilization Innovation: Consolidate and stabilize the three waste units into the ORWBG





Cost Improvement: Cost avoidance of \$150M
Performance Improvement: Significantly reduces worker risk
Expedites closure of sites 2 years



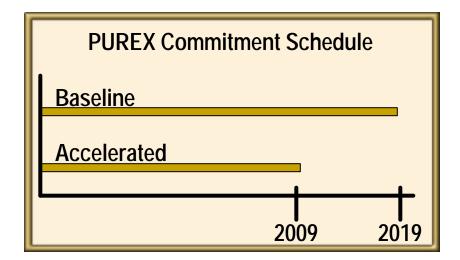
Solid Waste

Issue: Accelerate closure of the Consolidated Incinerator Facility and provide a solution for

F Canyon solvent, PUREX (Plutonium Uranium Extraction)

Traditional Approach: Incineration

Innovation: Stabilization in a polymer or clay media (NOCHAR or Petroset)



Cost Improvement: \$85M plus the additional cost

avoidance for F-Canyon PUREX

Performance Improvement: Significant risk reduction

Expedites schedule10 years

PUREX Organic - Tank 33 NOCHAR A610



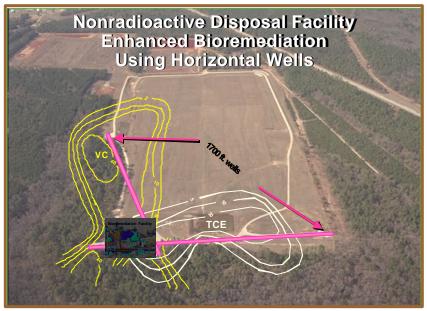


Natural Remediation



Natural Remediation Nonradioactive Disposal Facility (NRDF)

Issue: NRDF is unique in that it takes advantage of multiple innovative approaches, including capping, groundwater cleanup methods, and modeling concepts.



Groundwater Cleanup

Traditional

Approach: Pump and Treat

Innovation: Bioremediation using horizontal wells

Cost Improvement: \$20 Million

Performance Expedites schedule by 20 years Improvement: Expedites risk reduction to the

environmental (Upper Three Runs Creek

& seeps - point of exposure)

Geosynthetic Capping

Traditional Approach:

Clay Cap

Innovation: Geosynthetic Cap

Cost Improvement: \$5.5 Million

Performance

Improvement: Expedites risk reduction to the groundwater

by preventing contaminant migration caused

by rainwater infiltration Expedites schedule 10 years

Geosynthetic Capping 2 ft Closure Cap Comparison Vegetation Layer Soil Cover **Drainage Layer** 1 ft Rock FML 2 ft & 2 ft **Hydraulic Barrier** Soil Vegetation Layer **Kaolin Clay** Cover **Gas Vent Layer** 1"Geosyn. 1 ft Rock 2 ft 2 ft Foundation Foundation. **Native** Native Layer Layer Soil Soil Waste 9 Geosynthetic **Traditional Kaolin Clay Cover** Cover

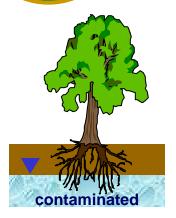
Advanced Modeling:

Modeling will help determine how much contaminant can remain in the groundwater without increasing risk at the point of exposure.



Natural Remediation

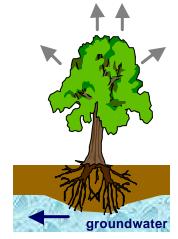
Deployment of Phytoremediation

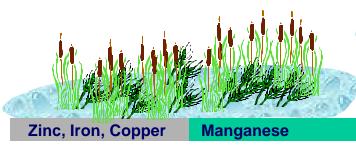


Destruction of organic contaminants in groundwater in the root zone of trees

In place

Hydraulic control of plumes by evapotranspiration In place

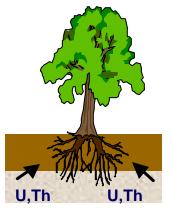




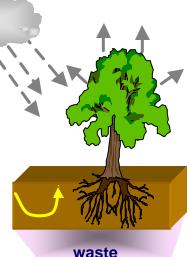
Constructed wetlands to precipitate heavy metals from surface waters

In place

Removal of metals/rads from shallow soils by absorption into plant biomass *Planning*

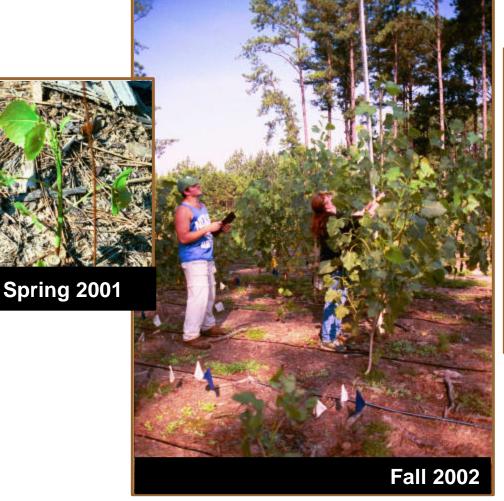


Vegetative landfill covers utilizing evapotranspiration Field Testing





Natural Remediation Phytoremediation Using Poplar Trees





New poplar trees planted in A and M area planted March 2002

D-Area poplar trees

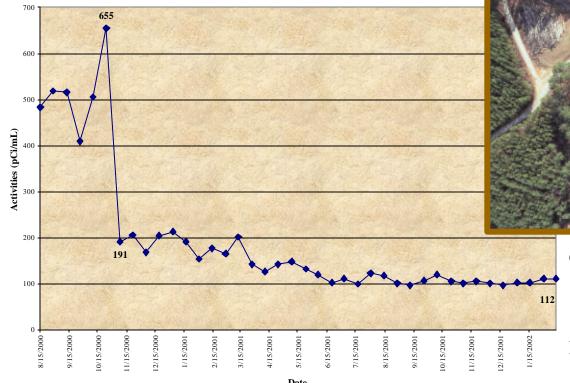


Natural Remediation Tritium Phytoremedation Project

Issue: Tritium contaminated groundwater at the Mixed Waste Management Facility is impacting Fourmile Branch. This stream is the largest waste site contributor of tritium to the Savannah River and ultimately the general public

Traditional Approach: Pump, treat, and reinject Innovation: **Phytoremedation**

Tritium Concentrations in Fourmile Branch





Cost Improvement: 4 times cheaper (\$7.6M capital cost savings and \$49M operating cost avoidance)

Performance Improvement: 80% risk reduction



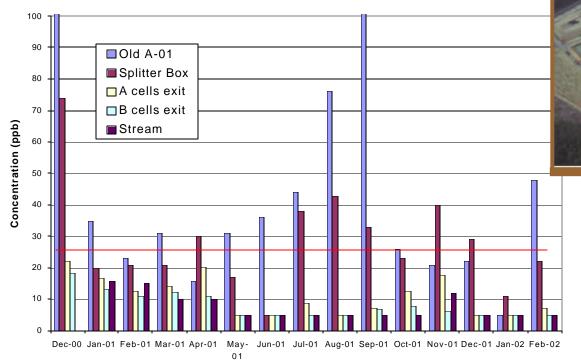
Natural Remediation **A-01 Outfall Constructed Wetlands**

Issue: Compliance with new NPDES permit requirements (copper, mercury and toxicity)

Traditional Approach: Mechanical and/or chemical treatment. Innovation: **Constructed Wetlands** using Giant

Bulrush plants and organic amendments

Copper in A-01 Outfall



Cost Improvement:

Capital investment 5 times, annual operating costs 30 times cheaper (\$20-35M, \$2.9M cost avoidances, respectively)

Performance Improvement: Relatively the same as traditional approach

Date



Natural Remediation Vegetative Cover

Issue: Reduce risk of contamination of groundwater from ash basins with or without coal rejects

Solution: Avoid muck-n-truck by utilizing innovative approaches to storm water management such as soil and vegetative covers



Power Plant and adjacent Ash Basin



Innovation at SRS

Who We Are

What We're Doing/Have Done

How We Do Business



Breaking Paradigms

Looking at problems differently to expand the solutions set

 Embracing the concept that many conventional approaches don't work as well and are too expensive.

 Recognizing the need for innovation in order to have a rationally fundable program.



Building Strong Relationships

Memorandum of Understanding (DOE, EPA, DHEC)

 Strong support of public, especially the Citizens Advisory Board

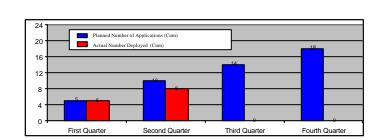
• Collaboration among DOE, Site Operating Contractor, Site Laboratories, Universities (USC, UGA, Clemson, Clark Atlanta, South Carolina State, Florida International, Claflin, Cornell, Savannah State, and others)



Managing Technology

 Documented technology plan

- ER Technology Panel
 - identifies needs
 - seeks out new technologies
 - reviews technologies for applicability, technical soundness and cost benefit



New Technologies

FY Date FY Date

PBS#

New Technologies	Planned	Deployed	Site	SR-ER		
✓ Microenfractionation	1Q02	1Q02	CMP Pits	04		
☐ Burge Real TimeTCE Sensor	1Q02		TNX	01		
Continuous Permeability Measurement						
with CPT (1)			D-Area	01		
☐ Sulfate Reduction of Metals in Contaminated						
Groundwater (2)	3Q02		D-Area	01		
☐ Pneulog Depth Discrete Contaminant			0.000			
Flux Measurement (2)			C BRP	02		
☐ Purge Water Management System (tankless)	1-4Q01		Site Wide	03		
☑ Solvent Tank Grouting	1Q02	1Q02	ORWBG	02		
☐ QED low flow pump	2Q02		TBD	03		
☑ ISOCS		1Q02	ORWBG	02		
Technology Redeployments						
Monitored Natural Remediation	4Q02		P BRP	04		
"Hot Spot" Base Injection at F Seepage Basin	3Q02		F Seepage Basin	02		
☐ Borehole Flowmeter	3Q02	1Q02	H Seepage Basin	02		
☑ StrataSampler	2Q02	2Q02	L-Area Southern Groundwater	04		
☑ Strata-Sampler ☑ Ribbon NAPL Sampler	2002	1Q02	A/M Area Groundwater	06		
□ "Easy Flow" Sampler	2Q02	1002	TBD	03		
☑ ISOCS	2002	2Q02	D Area Unidentified Trash Pile	01		
☑ StrataSampler	2Q02	2Q02	C Reactor Groundwater	02		
StrataSampler	3Q02		R Reactor Seepage Basin	04		
"Baseline" Redeployments			. 0			
(These technologies are not included in the total number of deployments	s)					
Soil Vapor Extraction	2Q02	2Q02	TNX	01		
☑ Wireline CPT Soil Sampler	4Q02		CMP Pits	04		
☑ Baroball PSVE ⁽³⁾	2Q02	2Q02	A Area Isolated Hazardous Material	06		
Isoflow Sampler	1Q02	1Q02	A Area BRP	06		
☑ Isoflow Sampler	1Q02	1Q02	Central Shops BRP	02		
Resonant Drilling	1Q02	1Q02	Central Shops BRP	02		
✓ Resonant Drilling	1Q02	1Q02	MWMF Groundwater	02		
Six Sigma						
✓ V &V of RCRA Groundwater data			Site Wide	03		
☐ Solvent Tank Closure			ORWBG	02		
☐ Sample Mobilization			Site Wide	03		
Habitability Surveys			Site Wide	03		
Radcon Support			Site Wide	03		
Field Characterization			Reactor Areas	04		
(1) SRTC Independent R&D funding						
(2) Technology Initiative Funding						
(3) Prior testing of baroballs indicated they would not work at shallow deeps. Therefore, proposed changes are to implement PSVE						



Business Model *Baseline Technologies*

- Excerpt

Problem Type	Baseline Technology	Estimated Baseline Quantities Baseline Unit		
Landfills	Kaolin Clay Cap	217 Acres	\$600K / Acre	
VOC Contaminated GW	Pump & Treat	6B Gallons of GW	\$5.05 / 1000 Gallons	
DNAPLs	Pump & Treat	3.5M lbs of Solvents (225B Gallons GW)	\$5.05 / 1000 Gallons	
Analysis	Offsite Analysis	1440 Samples / Year	\$2,550 / Full Suite Analysis (24-Hr. turn- around)	



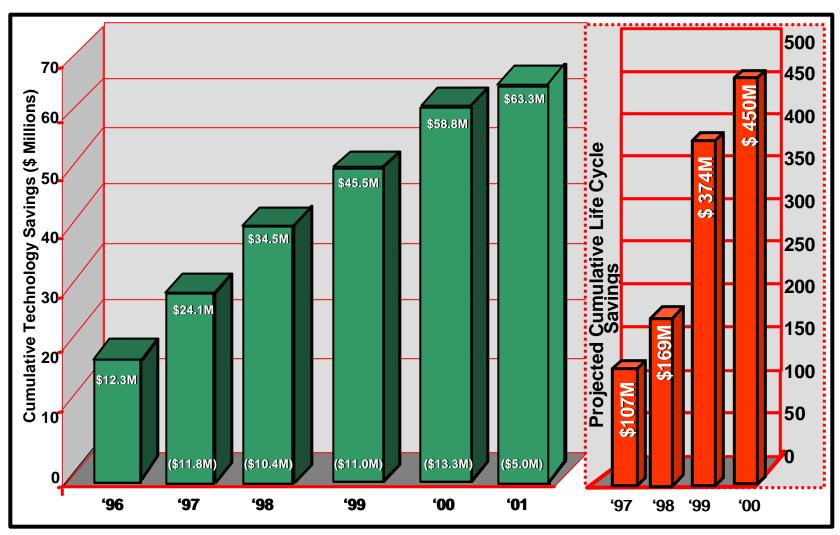
Business Model

Baseline Technologies Example Cost Savings Plans

Problem Type	Technology Deployed	Total Estimated LCCE Cost Savings (K)
Landfills	Geotextile Cover	\$17,050
VOC Contaminated	Recirculation Well	\$24,620
GW	GeoSiphon	\$19,200
DNAPLs	Dynamic Underground Stripping (DUS)	\$20,963
Data Analysis	Onsite mobile lab	\$44,851

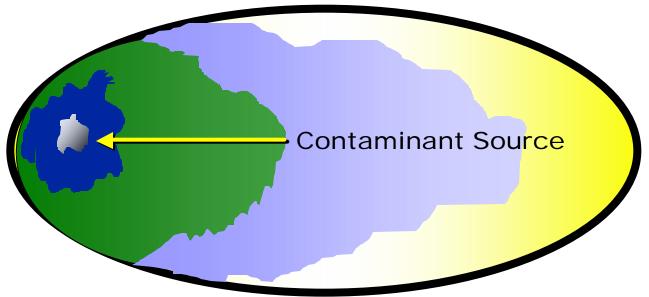


Cost Savings Through Technology





Groundwater Clean-Up Strategy



Source Control

Specific Technologies:

Grouting, Capping, Pump & Treat, Soil Vapor Extraction, Steam Heating (Dynamic Underground Stripping), Phytoremediation

Primary Groundwater Plume

Specific Technologies:

In Situ Chemical Oxidation (Fenton's Chemistry), Horizontal Wells, Bioremediation, Recirculation Wells, GeoSiphon, Phytoremediation

Dilute Plume / Fringe

Specific technologies:

BaroBall^M, Phytoremediation, Monitored Natural Attenuation/Mixing Zones



For additional information, contact:

Tom Heenan, Assistant Manager for Environment, Science and Technology

Office Phone: (803) 725-8074

Office E-mail: thomas.heenan@srs.gov

Home Phone: (803) 649-1632

Home E-mail: heenans@prodigy.net